**Civil society organizations claim our role within the Spanish Agency for the Supervision of Artificial Intelligence (AESIA from its Spanish acronym)**

We are at a crucial moment, where Artificial Intelligence is determining the automation of society, the course of democracies and the well being of the people. The technical complexity of algorithmic procedures, together with their social impact, requires a cross-cutting, multi-sectorial and participatory response from society.

For this reason, the proposal to create of the State Agency for the Supervision of Artificial Intelligence in 2022 are good news. Spain will assume the presidency of the Council of the European Union in the second half of 2023 and has also offered to be a pilot country to examine the new regulation of Artificial Intelligence that is currently being discussed in EU. This is a historic opportunity to put Spain at the forefront of innovation in rigorous respect for human rights.

Therefore, it would be incomprehensible for the government to not take advantage of the opportunity offered by civil society organisations to create an agency that is up to the challenges we face today, so we demand that:

- The government should take advantage of the opportunity to benefit from the knowledge and experience of civil society organisations that are already working on these issues. We therefore ask the Government to involve Civil Society Organizations in the process of designing, creating and establishing the objectives and aims of the State Agency for the Supervision of Artificial Intelligence.

- The Agency should exercise prudential supervision, guaranteeing the fairness of algorithmic processes, accountability for their negative and/or discriminatory impact and ensuring transparency. The Agency's action should primarily target public and private actors that develop and implement algorithms.

- The Agency should be an independent body, transparent in its entire structure, composition, and mission remit. Furthermore, it should promote the transparency, auditability and explainability of algorithms and information systems to society through Trough easily understandable and accessible tools and information

Given these demands, the undersigned organisations call for a clear and defined civil society participation strategy in the processes and policy development related to Artificial Intelligence.  We demand formal and established channels of dialogue with the government and encourage a public debate about the governance of algorithms that puts human rights and social justice at the center.

Drafted by:  Lafede.cat, Algorace, Fundación Eticas, CIVIO, Observatorio Trabajo, Algoritmos y Sociedad, Komons y Algorights

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